

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL UANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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SUBJECT: MOBUTU SPEAKS ON SPINOLA MEETING AND
INFLATION

1. PRESIDENT MOBUTU, IN SEPT 22 SPEECH BEFORE 100,000
PEOPLE MARKING DEDICATION OF RENOVATED STADIUM WHERE
ALI-FOREMAN FIGHT TO BE HELD OCTOBER 30, ADDRESSED THREE
MAIN TOPICS, AS FOLLOWS:

2. FIGHT PREPARATIONS

DESCRIBING ALI-FOREMAN FIGHT AND LARGELY BLACK
CURRENT MUSIC FESTIVAL AS VICTORIES FOR ZAIRIAN CONCEPT
OF "AUTHENTICITY", MOBUTU WELCOMED AMERICAN BLACKS BACK
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TO "SOIL OF THEIR ANCESTORS." HE SPOKE REPROACHFULLY

OF CRITICAL COMMENT BY SOME FOREIGN JOURNALISTS RE ACCOMMODATION AND ALLEGED SECURITY SITUATION HERE AND PRAISED EFFORTS MADE IN PREPARATION FOR MATCH. HOWEVER HE URGED PEOPLE TO MEET CHALLENGE BY RENEWING AND INTENSIFYING HOSPITALITY.

3. ANGOLA-CABINDA

MOBUTU NOTED ANGOLA NOT FOLLOWING PATH OF GUINEA-BISSAU AND MOZAMBIQUE BECAUSE OF INTERNAL DISPUTES AMONG LIBERATION GROUPS. BRAZZAVILLE SUMMIT OF EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN STATES CLOSED SEPT 2 AFTER ADOPTING MANY RESOLUTIONS ON DECOLONIZATION. FOUR DAYS LATER SPINOLA INVITED MOBUTU TO MEET WITH HIM IN LISBON TO DISCUSS ANGOLA. MBUTU DECLINED LISBON BUT AGREED TO CAPE VERDE VENUE. IN AN ASIDE MOBUTU TOOK GABONESE PRESIDENT BONGO TO TASK FOR PUBLICLY DENYING THAT MOBUTU HAD MANDATE FROM BRAZZAVILLE SUMMIT TO MEET SPINOLA. MOBUTU SAID HE HAD NEVER MADE SUCH CLAIM AND NOTED BITTERLY THAT BONGO HAD KEPT SILENT WHEN SENGHOR RECENTLY MET SPINOLA AT LISBON AIRPORT. DESPITE HIS DETRACTORS, MOBUTU SAID, HIS CONSTANT AIM WAS TO SERVE AFRICA, NOT HARVEST PUBLICITY. IN CASE OF ANGOLA IT WAS PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE HE MEET SPINOLA IN VIEW OF LONG ANGOLA-ZAIRE BORDER, BIG ANGOLAN REFUGEE POPULATION HERE, POTENTIAL AND SECURITY THREAT POSED BY 4000 EX-KATANGAN GENDARMES IN ANGOLA. MEETING WAS NOT TO BOLSTER CHANCES OF HODEN ROBERTO. ZAIRE DOES NOT COVET ANGOLA'S NATURAL WEALTH, OR PLAN ZAIRE-ANGOLA FEDERATION WITH MOBUTU PRESIDENT AND HOLDEN VICE PRESIDENT, OR COVET CABINDA'S OIL. ZAIRE HAS AMPLE RESOURCES OF ITS OWN. IT OPPOSES COLONIALISM AND RACISM AND WILL NEVER INDULGE IN THESE THINGS ITSELF.

4. INFLATION

MOBUTU SPOKE OF WORLDWIDE PROBLEM OF INFLATION AND ECONOMIC DISORDER ASSOCIATED WITH RISING OIL PRICES. SINCE OCT 1973, CERTAIN THIRD-WORLD OIL PRODUCERS HAD BECOME RICHER THAN SOME COUNTRIES IN EAST AND WEST, AND WERE NOW CAUSING GREAT DIFFICULTIES FOR OTHER THIRD-WORLD COUNTRIES. MOREOVER, PRICE OF COPPER FELL 50 PER CENT OVER PAST YEAR, WHILE COST OF IMPORTS ROSE MANY TIMES. SOLUTION LAY IN HARDER WORK, PARTICULARLY IN AGRICULTURE,

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AND IN IMPORT RESTRAINT. FINALLY, PRESIDENT WARNED THAT RISING COSTS WOULD FORCE A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN BUS FARES.
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